

OPS-2 MB

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION	NO.	STAT
			DATE November 1987	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED FORWARDED		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. C/MOD				
2.				
3. C/ESG				
4.				
5. C/FED				
6.				
7. C/ADD				
8.				
9. C/HED				
10.				
11. C/Computer Operations				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15. Retain/Destroy				



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

P.O. Box 199
Mbabane, Swaziland

1 December 1987
FBIS 5803-87

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Swaziland Bureau--November 1987

I. GENERAL

1. A total of six circuit outages this month at the Bureau culminated in a 3-day outage between 23 and 25 November, which began with primary communications, telex, and telephone circuits going down simultaneously. Direct line service of Johannesburg SAPA in English was also interrupted for 2 days. Telephone and telex were restored by the end of the first day, but local telephone company repair crews were compelled to dig up the ground around our primary commo line for 2 days before pinpointing a water leak as the culprit.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. South African involvement in the Angolan war deepened this month with the 11 November admission by the chief of the South African Defense Force that South African troops had been "compelled to take limited action against surrogate forces" on behalf of UNITA inside Angolan territory. Foreign Minister Pik Botha, in a 25 November interview on Johannesburg television, estimated Soviet-Cuban-MPLA casualties at 4000, with six brigades suffering between 60 to 80 percent annihilation.

2. Angolan President dos Santos, opening a 15 November meeting of Frontline States leaders in Luanda, denounced South Africa's presence in his country, claiming that its army had more than 3000 men and more than 70 armored vehicles inside Angola. He also claimed that South Africa had concentrated more than 30,000 men, more than 485 tanks, and more than 400 artillery weapons on the Namibian border with Angola.

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3. In a declaration of amnesty on 5 November, South African Justice Minister H.J. Coetsee authorized the release of Govan Mbeki, the ANC leader imprisoned in 1964 with Nelson Mandela, raising speculation about the possible release of Mandela himself. State President P.W. Botha commented at a 9 November National Party meeting that he would not hesitate to show mercy in certain prisoners' cases, but the government would act "with the same responsibility with which it had acted in the past."

B. Communications

1. State commo tech Eric Morin, based in Pretoria, visited the Bureau on 11 November and suggested an upgrade of Bureau circuits from 75 to 150 baud. Engineer [] is

STAT

C. Technical

1. The Bureau's new Victor VPC II was installed in the communications section on 17 November following ADD guidelines forwarded from Jordan Bureau.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Technician [] and Monitor [] received PSI's during the month.

STAT

B. Building and Grounds

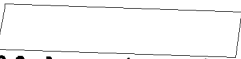
STAT

1. On 11 November, architects from Horn, Pugh, Bayly & Associates completed drawings of the Bureau floor plan in preparation for architectural drawings for a planned extension to the Bureau's communications section.

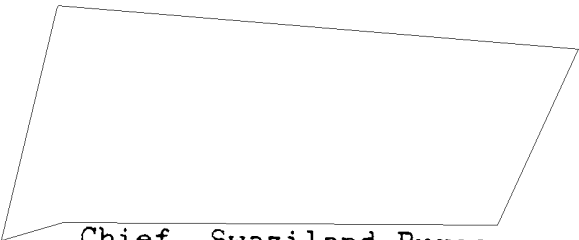
IV. VISITS

A. BBC Newsroom editor Ray Cooke paid a TDY visit to the Bureau on 12 and 13 November. In meetings with the Chief, Deputy Chief, editors, and senior monitors, he explored ways of broadening and enhancing Swaziland Bureau's support for BBC needs and requirements.

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B. FBIS Security Officer  conducted security inspections of the Bureau and staff housing from 6 to 11 November. STAT

C. Two technicians from AFCA visited the Bureau in early November to install a new Wang ICT system for the Bureau Chief and Deputy Chief's use.


Chief, Swaziland Bureau STAT